

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House Boston

NR District 44D

In Area no. B, AC	Form no. 55
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in Lexington

Address 5 Harrington Rd.

Level Harrington House

sent use Private Residence

ent owner Foley, Howard

ription:

c 1799 1794

urce F.S. Piper. Lexington: A Handbook

style Federal

Architect

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard, Brickends

Outbuildings (describe) Barn. Rear Of Property

Other features 2 Chimneys in Hiproof Section

Granite Foudation, Center Entrance

6 on 6 Windows, 5 bays Wide

Altered End Porches Added Date Early 1900s
Rear addition Other Changes In rear c.1830
Moved No Date

5. Lot size:

Less than one acre Over one acre X

Approximate frontage 75'

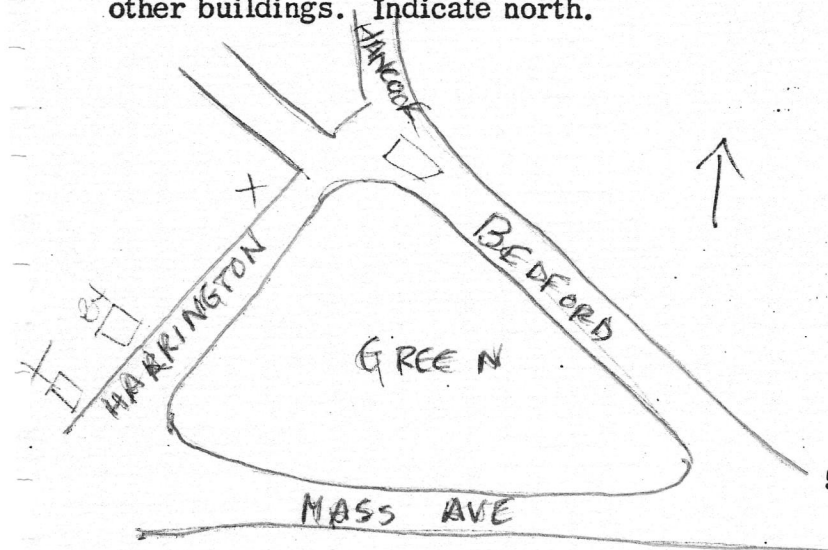
Approximate distance of building from street
20'

6. Recorded by E.W. Reinhardt

Organization Lex. Hist. Comm.

Date August 20, 1975

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant

MHC Photo no.

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Levi Harrington

Original use _____

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	_____	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ Humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	_____				

9. Historical Significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Descrip. cont. Rear addition w. field stone foundation (2 chimneys in this section of house) Front entrance porch 4 square columns, 4 pilasters on facade. grk. door, side lights, heavy entablature.

Historical significance

Home of Levi Harrington, an eyewitness to the battle on April 19, 1775. The Harrington family was always active in town politics. The last Harrington descendant, May S. Harrington, died in this house in 1946.

See correspondence in files of the Lexington Historical Society.

At one time, in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the Gershom Swan family and the George D. Harrington family occupied the house simultaneously, the Swans living in the west portion and the Harringtons in the east. (See also Hudson, Volume II.) The two families were related.

S. Lawrence Whipple, 1984

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Piper, Fred S., Lexington - Birth place of American Liberty. A Handbook
pub. by Lex. Hist. Soc., 1971

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town Property Address
LEXINGTON 5 HARRINGTON ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

B	55
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

According to the present owner (Carla Fortmann), the house was built in 1794. The owners have a copy of the contract to build the house. The builder was Jonathan Loring. Loring (1749-1849) was a member of Captain Parker's Company and was with it on the Common on the morning of April 19, 1775.

As originally constructed, the house was a Federal style, clapboarded structure with hip roof and brick ends. The right front room has an original fireplace with beehive oven, many original floor boards and some hand wood-blocked wall paper dating to about 1830.

A major addition to the rear was constructed c.1830, at which time this became a two-family residence. The front and side porches were added in the early 1900s.

The property was conveyed by Carolyn Phelps to Jane Foley in 1949. Howard Foley sold the house to Tom and Carla Fortmann in 1980.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Fortmann, Carla (present owner). Information on history of house, Sept. 2007.

Hudson, Charles. *History of the Town of Lexington*. Cambridge: The Riverside Press Co., 1913, vol. 2, p. 384.

Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.

Supplement prepared by:
Lisa Mausolf
July 2009